

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

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SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 OMB-01 SS-15 L-03 STR-04 XMB-02

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O 011519Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4782

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

OECD PARIS IMMEDIATE

US MISSION GENERV 830

USEC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY REYJAVIK

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1576

FOR ATTENTION EUR LABOR ADVISOR GOOTT

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DEPT PASS LABOR DEPT FOR SEGALL, METCALF, AND GERALD HOLMES

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, OECD, SP

SUBJECT: SPANISH LABOR MINISTER'S PARTICIPATION AT OECD MARCH  
4-5 LABOR MINISTERS MEETING

REF: OECD 5058

1. AS REFTEL INDICATES SPANISH LABOR MINISTER JOSE SOLIS RUIZ WILL  
HEAD

SPANISH DELEGATION TO OECD MARCH 4-5 LABOR MINISTERS MEETING, AND  
AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT OECD REP VALLAURE WILL BE SECOND RANKING  
MEMBER. OTHER MEMBERS DELEGATION INCLUDE FERANDO SANCHEZ CREUS  
TECHNICAL SECRETARY GENERAL AT LABOR MINISTRY, JORGE JORDANA DE POZAS

,  
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF LABOR MINISTRY' SEMI-AUTONOMOUS SPANISH  
EMIGRATION INSTITUTE, AND JOSE ANTONIO COLAS, CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS OFFICE OF LABOR MINISTRY (AND IVP LEADER GRANTEE TO U.S.  
IN 1974).

2. BRIEF BIO DATA ON SOLIS SOLIS WHOE IS 62 WAS LONG ASSOCIATED  
WITH FRNACO REGIME, WITH FALANGE AND ITS NATIONAL MOVEMENT SUCCESSOR  
ORGANIZATION, AND WITH GOVT-CONTROLLED SPANISH SYNDICAL  
ORGANIZATION (SSO). HE HEADED SSO FROM 1951 UNTIL 1959 AND WAS  
MINISTER OF NATIONAL MOVEMENT FROM 1957 UNTI 1969. IN 1969 HE  
AUTHORIED FIRST ATTEMPT TO SET UP POLITICALS ASSOCIATION TO  
REPRESENT DIFFERENT POLITICAL GROUPS IN THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT.  
FOLLOWING HIS OUSTER THE SAME YEAR, HE DEVOTED HIMSELF TO PRIVATE  
LAW PRACTICE AND BEHIND THE SCENSES POLITICKING UNITL FRANCO RECALLED  
HIM TO CABINET JUNE 1975 TO HIS OLD POSITION AS MINISTER OF NATIONAL  
MOVEMENT. SOLIS WAS REPORTEDLY KEPT IN NEW AND MORE LIBERAL FIRST  
POST-FRANCO CABINET MAINLY BECAUSE OF GOVT'S DESIRE TO HAVE A  
FALANGIST REPRESENTED. ALTHOUGH HE WAS TRANSFERRED FROM HIS  
NATIONAL MOVEMENT PORTOFOLIO TO LABOR MINISTRY. ALTHOUGH ONE OF MOST  
CONSERVATIVE MEMBERS OF PRESENT CABINET, SOLIS IS NEVERTHELESS  
A FELXIBLE POLITICAN COMMITTED TO THE PRESENT GOVTJ PROGRAM  
OF ORDERLY POLITICAL CHANGEM HE  
IS ALSO A GIFTED ORATOR AND AN EXTROVERT.

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3. LABOR MINISTRY INTL AFFAIRS CHIEF COLAS TOLD LABOR ATTACHE  
THAT SOLIS' MISSION AY OECD MEETING WILL BE TWO FOLD: A) TO SEEK  
BEST DEAL POSSIBLE FOR SPANISH EMIGRANT  
IN WESTERN EUROPE AND AT MINIMUM  
PREVENT NEW RESTRICTIONS BEING RAISED AGAINST THEM IN  
RECIPIENT COUNTRIES DUE TO ECONOMIC CRISIS: A B) TO ESTABLISH  
PERSONAL CONTACT AND DIALOGUE WITH LABOR MINISTERS. OUTSIDE  
OF OECD, SOLIS IS GOING TO HAVE CONTACTS AND INTERVIEWS WITH SOME

CONSERVATIVE FRENCH POLITICIANS AND PARLIAMERNTARIANS WHOM HE HAS KNOW OVER THE YEARS, INCLUDING ANTOINE PINAY. HE WILL ALSO MEET WITH SPANISH EMIGRANT WORKERS IN PARIS.

4. COLAS LUMENTED THAT SOLISN WITH HIS FALANGIST AND FRANCOIST PAST, WAS PERHAPS THE LEAST PRESENTABLE MEMBER OF NEW CABINET TO TALK WITH OTHER WESTERN EUROPEAN CABINET MINISTERS. SOLIS HIMSELF IS REPORTEDLY CONSCIOUS OF THIS HANDICAP AND WILL WORK TOWARD OVERCOMING THIS IMAGE AMONG THE OTHER LABOR MINISTERS. COLAS SIAD SUBSTANTIAL CARE HAS BEEN TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT SOLIS MAKES NO REFERENCE TO THE FRANCO PAST IN THE SPEECH HE WILL GIVE AT MEETING. SOLIS ALSO REPORTEDLY PLANS TO KEEP AWAY FROM SPANISH POLITICAL TOPICS AND TO DEAL PRIMARILY WITH CONCRET LABOR SUBJECTS (E.G. SPANISH EMIGRANT WORKERS). NONETHELESS HIS ADVISORS ARE STILL SOMEWHAT FEARFUL THAT THE TALKATIVE AND IMPULSVE SOLIS MAY STILL SAY THE WRONG THING AT SOME POINT.

5. COMMENT- SOLIS IS REPORTEDLY ANXIOUS TO MEET NEW LABOR SECRETARY USERY, AS WELL AS OTHER LABOR MINISTERS OF MOST IMPORTANT OECD COUNTRIES, AT MEETING. IT CONCEUVABLE SOLIS MIGHT SEEK WANGLE INVITATION TO VISIT U.S. IN HIS CAPACITY AS LOBOR MINISTER. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH LABATT IN PAST, SOLIS HAS SOMETIMES COMMENXTED RUEFULLY HOW, DESPITE HIS BEST AND PERSISTENT EFFORTS, HE HAD NEVER BEEN ABLE TO ESTABLISHED HIGHLY LEVEL CONTACTS WITH EITHER AMERICAN TRADE UNION OR GOVT OFFICIALS DURING 18 YEARS HE HEADED THE SSO, EVEN WHEN HE VISITED U.S. AS PART OF OFFICIAL SPANISH DELEGATION TO INAUGURATE SPANISH PAVILLION AT NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR. WE WOULD RECOMMEND AGAINST ANY POSSIBLE INVITATION TO SOLIS, SHOULD QUESTION ARISE. A VISIT BY THE CABINET MINISTER MOST LINKED MWITH THE FRANCO PAST. AT A CONFIDENTIAL

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TIME WHEN THE KING AND THE GOS ARE ENGAGED IN AN EFFORT TO TRANSFORM GRADUALLY THE SYSTEM INHERITED FROM FRANCO, WOULD NOT DO US ANY GOOD, AND OF COURSE, A SOLIS VISIT WOULD LIKELY GENERATE CRITICISMS FROM THE AMERCIAN LABOR MOVEMENT AND THE CONGRESS. STABLER

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